

Graphic Documents Newsletter, Issue 1, December 2018

Dear colleagues,

What do you expect to read in the Graphic Documents Working Group newsletter? Since this Working Group's newsletter is only issued once per year, it does not appear reasonable to present once more all kinds of news that have occurred over the year. Therefore, instead of repeating what you might have heard of from other sources, we decided to share and summarize what has happened within the Graphic Documents Working Group and ICOM-CC.

Graphic Documents Working Group

Since autumn 2017, a team of three is coordinating the Graphic Documents Working Group. Valentine Dubard and Paul Garside, two experienced colleagues who were involved previously in the team, and Ute Henniges who has her first term serving in the organisation of one of ICOM-CC's Working Groups. In our first year, we have been quite busy as Scientific Committee with compiling the abstracts and the programme for the Working Group's Interim Meeting (see below). Our efforts have been supported by Eve Menei who helped us reviewing the contributions for the Interim Meeting. In the framework of ICOM-CC's efforts to make more contributions available online, we compiled a list of Interim Meetings that took place over the last 20 years. Looking at 2019, we will prepare for the Triennial Conference in Beijing 2020 (for details see below). If you think that any of these topics sounds interesting to you and if you want to dedicate volunteer time to ICOM-CC, we are looking forward to new members of the coordinator's board – just let us know!

When we compiled the internal annual report 2018 for ICOM-CC, we discovered that the Graphic Documents Working Group currently has more 100 members, with 8 new members joining since March 2018. This corresponds to an increase of about 7%. Let us just remind you that being an ICOM/ICOM-CC member, you may join as many Working Groups as you wish; it might simply be helpful and interesting to have news from different communities.

Cooperation with other Working Groups

ICOM-CC offers great opportunities for cooperation with other Working Groups. We share information with each other and we even considered preparing a joint meeting with the Leather and Related Materials and/or the Photographic Materials Working Groups. It has just turned out that we were in very different places with respect to the preparation of our Interim Meetings: The Leather and Related Materials WG will meet in June 2019 in Paris, the Photographic Materials WG in February 2019 in New York and we are just about to have our Interim Meeting in January 2019 in Basel. More upcoming Interim Meetings can be found on the respect Working Group sections on ICOM-CC webpage (<http://www.icom-cc.org/> -> Working Groups). What we have learnt: preparing an ICOM-CC Interim Meeting needs to start well ahead of time and if you consider joining with other Working Groups – preparation must start even sooner. A brief question at this point: what is your interest as member of the Graphic Documents Working Group in having a joint meeting with two or three other working groups?

ICOM-CC Interim Meeting

On January 30th 2019 our next Interim Meeting will be held in Basel, Switzerland at Schaulager.

According to our programme issued for the current triennial from 2017-2020, one focus will be on the exploration of microfading testers (MFT). An entire afternoon session is dedicated to this topic and in addition we are happy to offer a workshop with hands-on training for those who would like to learn more about this technique.

We also need to encourage young and emerging colleagues to show and share their work. This is way we are proud to have a session with presentations of graduate works presented by our colleagues who have just finished their academic education and will hopefully find ICOM-CC as an interesting opportunity to share their work, contribute to the community and network.

Triennial Conference.

As an attentive reader of ICOM-CCs webpage you will have realized that the Call for Papers to the upcoming Triennial Conference in 2020 in Beijing, China, has been issued. The theme of the Triennial Conference in 2020 is “Transcending Boundaries: Integrated Approaches to Conservation”.

Stay updated with the Conference’s webpage (<http://www.icom-cc2020.org>) and keep the following key dates in mind:

December 2018: Call for Abstracts for Papers

18 March 2019: Website available for submission of abstracts

12 April 2019: Deadline for receipt of abstracts

End July 2019: Selected authors are invited to write a full paper

15 November 2019: Deadline for receipt of full papers

This two-phase process consists in a Call for Abstracts, followed by an invitation to submit full papers for publication. A separate Call for Posters will be issued at a later date. Authors will be informed of the results of the final selection of papers and posters by April 2020.

The ICOM-CC Triennial Conference presents an overview of the current state of conservation research and practice. Papers addressing the conference theme and/or the aims and programs of the ICOM-CC Working Groups are encouraged. Work submitted must be original and must not have been published elsewhere or be under consideration by another publication. At least one author of each selected paper and/or poster must participate in the Conference to present and discuss the work. All contributions must be submitted and delivered in English. Authors must use the abstract template provided on the dedicated conference website and submit the abstract via the website.

Upcoming topics

Last but not least there is another question to the members of the Graphic Documents Working Group. Since the Working Group was founded in 1967 it has carried several names, starting with

Paper Conservation (Books and Documents), followed by Books and Documents until the 1970s. At the 4th Triennial (1972-1975), it was changed once more to become the Graphic Documents and Illuminated Manuscripts Working Group. The current name of the Working Group, Graphic Documents, has remained unchanged since the 9th Triennial (1987-1990). During the last years some concern was raised that traditional paper conservation topics such as books and archival documents are not well represented in the title of the Working Group and the question came up if we should change the title of our working group once more to represent archival and library material in a better way? We will discuss this topic on the occasion of our Business Meeting in the course of the Interim Meeting in Basel, but we are also looking forward to your feedback with this respect.

We end this newsletter with best wishes for 2019 and are looking forward to your comments, your feedback and your contributions

Ute, Valentine and Paul

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